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war of 1870-71, and that there are persons still more convinced than he himself that this is true.

Whenever such a tribunal should be formed and should enter upon the practical work of adjusting difficulties, if it should conclude that Germany ought to restore Alsace-Lorraine, I am, for my part, most firmly persuaded that the German nation would never submit to such a tribunal of arbitration (bravo! on the right), but would give even the last drop of its blood rather than restore Alsace-Lorraine (loud applause on the right).

DEPUTY BEBEL: Tribunals of arbitration, if established, would act in the case of future difficulties, not those which are past.

DEPUTY BAUMBACH: The question of tribunals of arbitration was thoroughly discussed at the Interparliamentary Conference at Berne. I was myself present. Some French delegates proposed that a discussion be evoked in the separate parliaments in reference to the proposition of the American Congress. The question of Alsace-Lorraine was not raised, as not being suitable for discussion. We agree with the Imperial Chancellor, that what has been acquired should not be restored (applause on the left). Our idea is that in time it should become a maxim of the law of nations that treaties of arbitration should be tried before appeal is made to the *ultimo ratio regum*. We are of opinion that such an idea is realizable, and we beg of the Chancellor to consider the subject with more kindness than he has done heretofore.

WILL THERE EVER BE ANOTHER GREAT WAR?

(The following symposium was published in a recent number of the *Boston Globe*.)

ADMIRAL LEWIS A. KIMBERLY.

[Retired List United States Navy.]

In reply to your question: "Whether the conditions, political and mechanical, to day, are such that a great war would be impossible?" I will state, that as long as man continues combative, as well as destructive in his nature, and when these qualities are not controlled by moral and educational forces, there will not only be wars, but great wars.

A great war is not necessarily a long war; a war may be great according to the forces engaged, the expense incurred and the results arising therefrom.

The fond hopes of many humanitarians, that arbitration will supersede arms in settling international disputes in the future is a delusion in part, for there are questions that several nations would not submit to that mode of settlement.

For instance, I doubt very much whether either Germany or France would consent to arbitrate in regard to the Provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, or that England or Russia would be willing to submit the question of their respective rights in the East to any tribunal of that nature. Neither would Turkey agree to arbitrate on the question of a relinquishment of that portion of her domain remaining to her in Europe.

There are other instances that could be cited in which the principals would not consent to settle their differences by any such court.

Therefore, when the time in the near future arrives for

a solution of the above mentioned points, they will be settled by war, and they will be great wars, not only in the numbers of the opposing forces, but in money and material, as well as in results.

The great advances made in the manufacture of rapid-firing guns and other weapons of destruction, as well as in explosives, in the means of rapidly concentrating great armies, the rapidity of transmitting orders and information in the field by telegraph and telephone, the great speed combined with carrying capacity of the modern steamships, will all tend to shorten the time of hostilities, but not to lessen the effects of making such wars great.

There may be also a time in the life of a nation when a war is absolutely the only means by which it can attain a healthy and prosperous condition and continue in existence by freeing itself from deep-seated and long-borne corrupting influences that sap its strength and threaten its destruction. Hence as man has not yet attained that perfection of character by which he can safely dispense with his offensive and defensive powers, he will continue to use them when occasion requires, as he has done heretofore.

REV. W. D. P. BLISS.

[Of the Church of the Carpenter.]

Probably there will be another great war, but it will be a war to prevent there being any more war. War is carried on by governments. Individuals quarrel, but they do not war. Government to-day is carried on by the rich. The next great social movement will be the capturing of government by the common people in the interest of universal brotherhood.

In the present state of human development this struggle will probably call out from the aristocracies or plutocracies that to-day rule armed resistance, against which the people will wage war and win.

When the people have won war will disappear. Socialism will not make war. To day Germany, Austria, France, Russia, even England and America maintain armies, not to please the poor, but to please the rich. The rich in Europe, by calling attention to a possible war between nations, seek to distract the attention of the poor from the social problem.

In Europe and America they also rely upon the army to put down any insurrection of the poor. It will not serve, however. The people are slowly rising to their heritage and the end is drawing near. At such a time as we think not the Master cometh. When ye hear of wars and rumors, then know ye that the end draweth nigh.

War is wrong, but wrong is ignorance. Therefore men shall grow out of it.

Those who know the higher powers will never war. Those who are yet on plane of force had better use it than remain stagnant. There is something lower as well as higher than war. "First pure, then peaceable," but the kingdom of love shall conquer the kingdom of strife at the last. Towards this we are moving.

JOHN C. ROPES, ESQ.

[Military Historian.]

It would be very hazardous to express a definite opinion whether another great war is possible or probable. One can only say that there is no reason why a great war is impossible.

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upon those principles he acquitted of blame, if he did not justify, the North in the American Civil War, the bloodiest and costliest of all modern struggles. To make their dream of international arbitration the last resort in the quarrels of nations the Arbitration League would have to break through those principles which are founded on the broad basis of self-preservation. Mr. Frank Wright last night spoke with a fine affectation of contempt about Uganda, where we wanted no occupation, and as little interference as possible, and he also asked what we had got for the £17,000,000 which the Abyssinian campaign cost us, and the lives and treasures we had spent in Egypt. It is with nations as it is with individuals; if they do not go forward they must go backward. And if we were to pass over unnoticed every slight which was put upon us, or even evasion of international obligation towards us, we should soon go backward in the world's race. To keep its place in the ranks in Europe every country must be able not only to claim it but to assert it. An armed peace is the surest guarantee of peace that Europe has just now. But for the state of perfect self-defence in which the opposing forces stand the great war which has been so often predicted in Central Europe, and is still looked forward to, would have been precipitated years ago. Disarmament, if mutually agreed upon, would come as a shower in a thirsty land to all Europe, for the nations are groaning under the terrible burden which this state of armed peace entails. But the probability of laying the racial antagonisms, the long-cherished hatreds, and the bitter ashes of former quarrels, all of which tend towards strife and destruction, and ushering in an era when self-preservation will be secured by the fiat of a peaceful tribunal is too remote to be seen except by the eye of that faith which leans on arbitration. And at present there are really no signs that it will ever get beyond faith in this mundane sphere.—*Birmingham Mail*.

AN APPEAL TO ARBITRATION.

English and American diplomatists may conceivably regret the termination of a voluminous and doubtless interesting correspondence, but every one else concerned will be glad that the long-standing Fishery dispute between this country and the United States is within measurable distance of settlement. The Tribunal of Arbitration which is to meet in Paris next Tuesday, is the outcome of a treaty signed last February whereby the two Powers concerned found themselves compelled to submit their differences to the decision of the law and not of the sword. There are seven members of the Court, two each nominated by the interested parties and one each by the President of the French Republic, the King of Italy and the King of Norway and Sweden. The arbitrators are all pundits, learned in that mysterious science known as international law. There are several abstruse points for consideration, most of them depending on the rights, if any, possessed by Russia in the Behring Sea, and the question of their transfer to the United States when that Power purchased Alaska. All these controversial matters are subsidiary to the main question whether the Behring Sea, which, geographically, is part of the Pacific Ocean, is so likewise from the international-legal standpoint. If it is, the Canadian fishermen have the right to capture seals in its waters outside the three miles limit; if it is not, then the United States has a perfect right to exclude them. What-

ever the verdict, we may be sure it will be loyally accepted by both parties to the dispute, and an old-established source of irritation between them will be removed.—*The Morning (London)*.

A prize fight, or *murder fight*, took place near Syracuse, in this State, last week, which resulted in the death of one of the participants. The fight was clearly contrary to the law of the State, and yet it was not interrupted either by the police or by the sheriff or his deputies. One of the fighters died from a blow he received, and his antagonist has been arrested and held. Under our laws this is a case of manslaughter, and we trust that whatever punishment the law decrees will be visited upon the guilty person, and that those who abetted this violation of the statutes and of the decencies of our civilization will be arraigned and punished as the law provides. These sports, so called, are but one degree removed from the brutality of bull-fights; and it is a shame and disgrace to any State where they are allowed to take place openly, or otherwise, with the knowledge of the peace authorities.—*The Independent*.

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It is true that the destructive capacity of modern war machinery is exceedingly great, but since battles must be fought on solid ground, it is readily seen that no engine of war would have a clear and unobstructed sweep unless all inequalities of earth were levelled beforehand. This element of the inequalities of battle grounds is one that should not be ignored in any consideration of the destructive capacity of modern war machinery.

Another element to be considered is the fallibility of human intelligence and the imperfection of human skill. Before we decide that a perfect gun or other implement of death will operate perfectly, we must have a perfect eye and a perfect hand, and an infallible human intelligence behind the gun.

The fact that in these days a war would involve very great and very general industrial and financial disturbance, would be more likely to prevent conflict than would any consideration of the destructive power of war machinery. In former times the industrial disturbance which war caused was not nearly so general or so profound.

After all, there is very little safety in predictions concerning the possibility of another great war. Wars are brought on by much the same kind of accidents in human conduct that bring about short conflicts between individuals, and while it is not a very gratifying fact to reflect upon, it is nevertheless one that seems easily demonstrable, that what might be considered a slight accident, is often sufficient to bring about conflicts in which whole nations may be concerned. Still for a slight accident to be the occasion for a war between two great nations, there must exist a profound distrust on the part of each of the intentions and objects of the other.

BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD, LL. D.

[Secretary American Peace Society.]

What is to be the outcome of the struggle now going on between the forces of our civilization, which are fast creating the conditions of a permanent and world-wide peace,

and the historic war method of settling disputes and maintaining national honor? As to the distant future there can be no reasonable doubt. Not only great wars, but small ones also must cease. No one who has looked into the real spirit of modern progress can fail to see that this is the goal to which it is all tending, even hurrying.

Modern society is becoming so unified, and at the same time so complex, as to make war unendurable. There are no more continents to discover. The work of colonization will soon be over, and this will limit very much the scope of national ambition. The nations will settle down more and more, as they are already doing, to the development of their internal life and resources, within their divinely appointed and naturally fixed limits. Travel and acquaintance are increasing with astonishing rapidity, and this is building up mutual respect and forbearance.

The network of trade is now drawn over nearly the entire earth, and commercial interests are radically opposed to war, which, when it occurs, stops nearly all the wheels of business. It will not be long, with the expanding commercial and credit systems of our time, until even a small war between commercial states would be able to produce such widespread financial disorder as no money crisis has ever brought.

The laboring classes are rapidly coming to a consciousness of their place and power, and before many generations have passed it will not be possible for rulers to send them to fight each other against their will. Labor organizations, now very numerous, almost without exception are among the foremost in condemning the military system. Scientific organizations, with stations at many points of the globe, are very powerful peace societies. Christian missions have within fifty years encircled the world with a chain of influences which everywhere are counteracting and repressing the old war spirit. Diplomats and statesmen are more thoughtful and patient than they were a generation ago, and this removes one of the most serious causes of war. The people are making themselves heard in the parliaments of even the most military nations.

For these and other like reasons I am profoundly convinced that the day of war is, relatively speaking, practically over. Modern militarism, with all its perfections in the arts of death and destruction, belongs to the old order of things and not to the new. The same causes which make fist fights so rare among the multitudes which throng our streets for business, social, educational and religious purposes, will on a broader scale produce like results before long in the world at large.

As to the immediate future I am not so certain. Here it would be rash to prophesy. Though "war is on its last legs," as Emerson said, it is making a desperate struggle to maintain its footing. The enormous increase of armies and navies, the perfected instruments of attack and defence, furnish just so many tinder-boxes of danger. They are not peace but "war preparations." Their fruit may not ripen though it is continually growing larger.

On the whole, I am inclined to think that the great European war, so long talked of, will never come. There is too much to risk and too little to gain for any nation to allow itself easily to be decoyed into opening hostilities. Yet the balance is so evenly poised that it may tip the wrong way, and I should not be greatly surprised to wake up to-morrow morning and find the newspapers headlined "War! War!"

CAPT. FRANCIS H. HARRINGTON.

[United States Marine Corps.]

The wonderful improvements in war machinery that have taken place in the last quarter of a century will, no doubt, have some effect in delaying war. The fact, however, that a great conflict between nations would involve so tremendous and universal disturbance, financial, commercial and industrial, throughout the civilized world, would have the effect of very materially lessening the chances of war.

But to say that a great war is impossible or impracticable, is to deny certain very well established facts of human nature. Nations are only collections of individuals, and the almost irresistible inclination of nearly all individuals to fight it out at some stages of disagreement and dispute will always be apparent in the relations between nations.

Great wars have been in the past, and will be in the future, precipitated by the action of the few who rule, without much thought of the many who serve, but with the improvement of the character of the rulers of the earth the probability of war becomes less.

Nations, like individuals, are not deterred from combat by the possibility of defeat, and no reliance can be had on the improvement in arms to prevent war. The improbability of conflict between nations increases as civilization progresses, in much the same way as mature men resort less readily than children to the settlement of disputes by fists.

GEN. NATHAN A. M. DUDLEY.

[Retired List United States Army.]

In answer to the question whether the conditions are such to-day that a great war is impossible or impracticable I have no hesitancy whatever in answering No! Though that answer must be qualified by saying that there is some improbability of such an event arising from the fact that the civilized nations of the world at the present time lean more to the arbitrament of the pen than that of the sword, and that the sentiment of the day is on all sides peace, not war. Modern armament, which is so great and formidable, is, as I take it, not an incentive to war, but rather an ally of peace, the more so, perhaps, in case of domestic disturbance than in case of foreign entanglements. Large armaments carry with them no absolute significance, but are merely in the line of modern development of the science and practice of war.

What is new in the science of arms, of whatever branch of the service, if adopted by one great power must be met by a corresponding advance by the other great powers if they are at all desirous of holding their proper status among the nations of the world.

The second part of the question may be replied to more briefly. A great war is never impracticable, as has been demonstrated by all the great wars of the world; and it is quite as probable that there will be a great war in the future, as it is certain that there have been great wars in the past. What nations it may occur between, who is there that can conjecture? Let the issue come, and there can be no doubt whatever of its practicability.

MRS. EMILY L. CLARK.

[President Woman's Relief Corps, Department of Massachusetts.]

The question regarding the possibility of another great war in this country, is one of vital importance to almost

every home, and therefore concerns the women of our land. While a question of universal interest, it is one upon which opinions are divided.

Some people claim that the labor problem can only be settled by recourse to arms, and the prediction has been made that the South, gaining steadily in wealth and again wielding an influence in national affairs, will some day in the future endeavor to retrieve its lost cause. Murmurings of war with foreign powers are heard whenever an insult is offered to our flag as it waves over some vessel bound for a foreign port.

Having for many years been associated with a work in the interest of those who have passed through the trials of war — those whose descriptions of the carnage of battle, the starvation of the prison and the lingering sufferings of hospital life vividly remind us of its horrors, I am convinced that their story has a potent influence in helping to continue that reign of peace that has blessed our land for twenty-eight years.

The civil war proved the stamina of our citizens and the valuable resources of our country, and the more its history is read and understood the less liability is there of the predictions of war becoming a reality.

I am not a prophet and cannot look with a prophet's eye into the centuries of the future, but I believe that the sentiment of the people of the present generation is adverse to the barbarisms of war, and that their better judgment will prevail when settling the great questions that are of importance to our national affairs.

EVENTS OF THE MONTH.

Alexander the First, the young King of Servia, took the reins of government into his own hands on the 14th of April. At a banquet given to celebrate his success in passing the examinations of Servian students, he had the regents and ministers of State arrested and put under guard, and proclaimed himself king though still a year under legal age. Abuses of power by the regents and State officials are said to have led to this *coup d'état*, which was carried out without the least suspicion having arisen on the part of the regents.

Trouble has recently broken out between the Navajo Indians and the white settlers. These Indians have a reservation of twelve thousand square miles in New Mexico and Arizona. The trouble has been brewing for some time. Several engagements have taken place and a number of settlers have been killed. The war department has been notified.

The revolution which has taken place in Belgium during the last month in favor of universal suffrage is a phenomenon as instructive as it is unique. It is a curious illustration of the power of the masses in modern times. All previous efforts to obtain universal suffrage had failed. The ballot was in the hands of only a few thousands of rich people. The Parliament, representing these few rich and not the nation, steadily declined to extend the

suffrage. The people grew tired of this and struck, not for better wages, not for shorter hours, but simply to have the right to a share in the government. The movement spread to all parts of the country. There was collision in places and bloodshed, and several lives were lost. The soldiers sympathized with the strikers. The wheels of industry were nearly all stopped. The Parliament became alarmed, and the deputies hastened to grant universal suffrage while masses of angry men waited without. When the vote was known outside there was wild cheering and the crowd dispersed and the strikers all over the country went back to their work. The Senate speedily ratified the action of the House. But for this speedy action of the Parliament, there would almost certainly have been a bloody revolution overthrowing the kingdom and turning Belgium into a republic.

April is *par excellence* the month of tornadoes. This year these storms have been unusually frequent and violent. Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Texas, Mississippi, Minnesota, Oklahoma and some of the States on the Atlantic coast have suffered great loss of life and property. The tornadoes in Northern Iowa and Nebraska and in Texas were among the most destructive ever known.

A memorial service to Bishop Brooks was held by the city of Boston in Music Hall on the evening of the 11th of April. The hall was crowded with friends of the great preacher. A poem was read by Rev. M. J. Savage, and the oration written by Dr. Samuel Eliot was read by Charles R. Codman.

The three caravels, the Santa Maria, the Nina and the Pinta, made to represent in size and rigging the ships with which Columbus and his men crossed the ocean four hundred years ago and sent by Spain to the Naval Parade, excited great interest alongside of the big modern ships.

On Mr. Blount's arrival in Hawaii the American flag was hauled down and the temporary protectorate declared ended. The latest reports say that the native population are very strongly opposed to annexation, and equally opposed to the restoration of the queen.

The new French ministry with Mr. Dupuy at its head, though generally considered weak, has the merit of having in it no one who was connected with the Panama corruptions.

Professor Henry Drummond has given during the month a course of twelve lectures in Huntington Hall, Boston, on the "Evolution of Man." The course began on the 4th of April, and the hall has been full to overflowing at every lecture.

On April 16th a total eclipse of the sun took place, which was visible in South America and Africa. Expeditions were sent out from a number of the leading observatories of the world to take observations, and important results are expected.